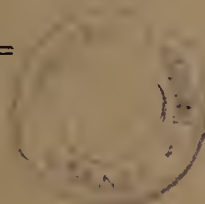


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Rural District of Maidstone



Annual Report for the Year, 1962

ON

THE HEALTH OF THE
RURAL DISTRICT OF MAIDSTONE

BY THE



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

F. H. M. DUMMER,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MAIDSTONE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR

1962

ON THE HEALTH OF THE RURAL DISTRICT,

BY THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

F.H.M. DUMMER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

M a i d s t o n e R u r a l D i s t r i c t C o u n c i l

P u b l i c H e a l t h C o m m i t t e e

Chairman

Colonel Sir George W. Heron, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O.

Members

Mr. R.A.Coates	Brig. D.C. McClure
Mr. P.A.E.Devenish	Mr. H.W.Milsted
Mr. J.A.R.Hall	Mr. P. Morphett
Mrs. N.D.Herbert	Capt. L.M.Stopford
Mrs. H.A.Ireland-Blackburne	Mr. F.D.Thomas
Maj. De.S.H.Lewis-Barned	Mr.W.Tipples
Mr. M.B.Winch	Mr.J.F.Towner

Public Health Officers of the Rural District Council :-

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :-	Dr.F.H.M.Dummer, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:-	G.W.White, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspectors' Certificate, Certificate of Inspector of Meat and Other Foods, and Smoke Inspectors' Certificate.
ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:-	F.O.Elliott, M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspectors' Certificate, Certificate of Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
CLERK TO THE DEPARTMENT:-	Mrs. C.A.Knight.
SECRETARY TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:-	Miss H.Wood.

RURAL DISTRICT OF MAIDSTONE

Central Health Department,
13 Tonbridge Road,
Maidstone.

Public Health Department,
26 Tonbridge Road,
Maidstone.

Telephone: Maidstone 4072

Telephone: Maidstone 51163

To: Chairman and Members of Maidstone Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my sixth Annual Report on the health of the Rural District of Maidstone.

The year 1962 was not one of high incidence of infectious diseases, not being a year of epidemic measles. No particularly unusual features were noticed in the incidence of infectious diseases generally, and once again no cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis were notified.

The figures shown for the courses of protection against poliomyelitis, although amounting to a total of 7,738 people since the beginning of the availability of the vaccine, nevertheless is still surprisingly low. When one considers the easy administration of this vaccine, being in oral form, there would appear to be very little reason for the percentage of completed courses to be much lower than the maximum.

It is an extraordinary reflection on public outlook that no matter how conveniently the services are offered, there is still a reluctance on the part of great numbers to avail themselves of the obvious advantages.

Similarly, it required the occurrence of a most serious outbreak of smallpox to affect materially the number of people protected by vaccine against this disease. When smallpox was a distinct hazard in the whole of this country in the winter of 1961/1962, the figures for vaccination rose out of all proportion. As soon, however, as the disease abated, the figures even for primary vaccination of children born after that time, resumed the low level previously experienced.

The number of deaths from cancer amounted this year to 45, being the lowest figure since 1958. The proportion of deaths from cancer of the lung or bronchus was one-seventh of the aggregate of all cancer deaths. The only comforting factor about the figures on cancer mortality is that the vast majority of people who died of this disease were over 66 years of age; the figures in the middle age group are still not prominently significant.

This year the infant mortality rate for your District is above that for England and Wales, but it is a rate which varies very widely with the small figures involved. A difference of approximately 8 to 10 above or below that of England and Wales is not statistically significant.

The work of the Public Health Department generally has gone on increasing during the year, and it will be seen from the summary of inspections that no fewer than 4,989 visits were carried out, an increase of 754 over 1961. Those visits, plus the additional duties contained in new legislation have placed a very serious burden on your small inspectorate, and the decision taken recently to increase this inspectorate is to be welcomed.

I wish to place on record my appreciation of the services of Mr. White and Mr. Elliott, who have given me willing and loyal support throughout the year. As in previous years, I have had the support of a knowledgeable and sympathetic Public Health Committee, and my thanks are due for their help and interest.

All other Officers of the Council have co-operated with the work of the Department, and I am grateful for the assistance which has been given.

I have the Honour to be,


Mr.Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F.H.M. DUMMER.

Medical Officer of Health.

10th September, 1963.



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STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	34,487
Estimated resident population (1962)	20,890
Number of inhabited houses (according to rate books) at the end of 1962	6,857
Rateable Value at the end of 1962	£237,122
Sum represented by a penny rate	£930

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births	199	165	364
Live Birth rate per 1,000 population	crude		17.42
		corrected	17.59
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			7.12

	Male	Female	Total
Stillbirths	1	2	3
Stillbirths rate per 1,000 live and still births ..			8.17
Total live and still births			367

	Male	Female	Total
Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year) 8		3	11
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births ..			30.21
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births			23.80
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..			107.14

Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	21.97
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	19.23

Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths) Under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births	27.24
---	-------

Maternal mortality (including abortion)	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	-

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths	159	130	289
Death rate per 1,000 population	crude		13.83
		corrected	9.54
Death rate for England and Wales			11.9

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

School Health Service

The School Health Service, with school inspections and clinics, the Maternity and Child Welfare Service and the Domiciliary Midwifery Service, are now administered by the Kent County Council, and are controlled by the County Medical Officer.

Hospitals

The hospitals are administered by the Mid Kent Hospital Management Committee and the South Eastern Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. The services of the consultant staff are available at the West Kent General Hospital, and the Kent County Ophthalmic and Aural Hospital. Available also is Preston Hall Hospital and use is made by patients from the Maidstone area of the hospitals in the Tunbridge Wells area, particularly Pembury and the Kent and Sussex Hospital.

Additional beds are in use at Linton Hospital.

There is now no infectious diseases hospital in this area, and cases in the meantime have to be sent primarily to Joyce Green Hospital, Dartford, which entails a fairly long journey. Although representation has been made to the Regional Hospital Board on this question, there is very little likelihood of improved facilities for infectious diseases being available for this area before the new district hospital - scheduled for after 1970 - is built in the Maidstone area. This will, it is understood, include a wing for infectious diseases.

Since the publication by the Ministry of Health in 1962 of "A Hospital Plan for England and Wales", many discussions have taken place on local requirements, and at the present time the whole subject is under continuous review.

Domestic Help Service.

This service is administered by the County Council and is of great value in providing care for aged and disabled patients and thus relieving pressure on the available hospital beds. I often find that by the judicious use of this service, elderly people are given the advantage of essential domestic help, thereby tiding them over a difficulty which, in other circumstances, would undoubtedly require hospitalisation.

It is surprising to find such a large number of elderly people with no near relatives, and often, I am sorry to say, relatives who are unwilling to help out at this dependent stage of life.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

ANALYSIS IN AGE GROUPS

DISEASE	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-45	46-65	66 & over	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	-	-	5	3	-	-	-	-	-	8
Whooping Cough	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	5
Measles	1	10	10	45	5	2	-	-	-	73
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	4
Paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	1	11	16	51	5	2	1	1	2	90

1962 was not a year of high incidence for measles, the total number of cases notified being 73. The few cases of scarlet fever were of a mild nature, and no other infectious diseases created any problem.

Once again there were no cases of diphtheria or poliomyelitis.

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

PARISH DISTRIBUTION

	Barming	Bearsted	Boughton Monchelsea	East Farleigh	West Farleigh	Hunton	Linton	Loose	Marden	Nettlestead	Otham	Staplehurst	Teston	Yalding	TOTALS
Scarlet fever	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	8
Whooping cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	5
Measles	-	54	-	5	-	-	2	-	2	-	-	10	-	-	73
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	4
Paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	-	55	4	5	-	-	2	-	6	4	-	11	2	1	90

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTALS
Scarlet fever	2	-	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	8
Whooping cough	-	-	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Measles	-	4	10	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	48	73
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4
Paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthrax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	5	4	10	7	4	-	1	-	-	2	8	49	90

The only point of interest in the above table is the apparent period of immunity from measles during the Summer and Autumn months. This is a pattern which is, however, seen even at times of high incidence.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following are the poliomyelitis vaccination figures for 1962 based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year	2 Injections (SALK)	3rd Dose (SALK and ORAL)	4th Dose (SALK and ORAL)	3 ORALS Complete Course
1962	1	-		48
1961	5	42		149
1957 - 1960	52	208		18
1943 - 1956	19	102	621	16
1933 - 1942	20	111		19
Others	44	340		39
TOTALS	141	803	621	289

During the year 803 people completed a full course of three injections or a combined course of injections and oral vaccine.

With the introduction now of the fourth dose, (which will normally be an oral dose), this further protection was given to 621 people.

The above table now shows a variation from the table submitted in 1961. The new oral immunisation is now given as distinct from the protection given by Salk vaccine alone, or by Salk combined with oral vaccine.

The total number of people in 1962 who have completed a course of three doses is 1,092, and since the scheme started 7,738 people up to the age of forty years have received a full course of poliomyelitis vaccination. This represents approximately 38.5 per cent of your District if one ignores the age barrier.

This is probably the highest percentage protection, for any single disease, that exists locally. The latest figures indicate a continuing response to the protection offered, and makes the outlook for the control of poliomyelitis very hopeful.

The introduction of the fourth dose is more or less a booster dose and from this point of view is very important indeed. It is only by way of booster doses that continued protection against poliomyelitis can be maintained.

Once again I take the opportunity of reminding the District that protection against poliomyelitis is a free service, which can be obtained through one's general practitioner, the School Health Service, or the Clinics made available from time to time by the County Council.

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the whooping cough immunisation figures for 1962, based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year of Birth	Whooping Cough Immunisation (Singly or in combination) Primary
1962	119
1961	114
1960	6
1959	3
1958	nil
1953 - 1957	1
1948 - 1952	3
TOTAL	246

The number of people availing themselves of the opportunity for immunisation against whooping cough has fallen somewhat in 1962, the figure being 246 as compared with 294 in 1961.

It is a pity to see these figures drop, since it has been pointed out again and again that whooping cough can be a serious illness in infants. We have always taken the view that every opportunity should be taken to avail oneself of the immunisation offered against all infectious diseases, particularly in infancy and childhood.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION

The following table shows the smallpox vaccination figures for 1962, based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

AGE AT DATE OF VACCINATION	NUMBER VACCINATED	NUMBER RE-VACCINATED
Under 1	229	-
1	24	1
2 to 4	48	13
5 to 14	137	265
15 or over	229	742
TOTAL	667	1,021

The figures for smallpox vaccination for 1962 have greatly increased since the previous year. This was due to the extraordinary public demand following the outbreaks of smallpox in December 1961, and the early months of 1962.

At the beginning of the year restrictions were placed on persons travelling to and from this country, so that holiday travellers in 1962 were obliged to produce certificates of recent vaccination.

Since that time, however, the demand has naturally fallen off, but at least the outbreak did produce, on the credit side, a vastly increased degree of protection in the community.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the diphtheria immunisation figures for 1962, based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year of Birth	Diphtheria Immunisation (Singly or in combination)	
	Primary	Reinforcing
1962	124	-
1961	115	4
1960	8	51
1959	5	11
1958	3	7
1953 - 1957	3	119
1948 - 1952	3	10
TOTAL	261	202

Once again the number of diphtheria immunisations has maintained a relatively high level, although slightly below that of last year's high total.

As has been pointed out from time to time in your Committee meetings, it is essential to maintain in this extremely serious disease, a high level of immunity, as this is the only method by which diphtheria can be prevented from becoming the serious menace that it was thirty years ago.

The above figure indicates that although there are still a considerable number of people taking advantage of the free facilities, the total number could well be increased.

FOOD POISONING

During 1962 no cases of food poisoning were notified either formally or informally.

TUBERCULOSIS

I am indebted to Dr. D.L.Pugh, the Chest Physician, for the following details of the number of contacts of known cases of tuberculosis examined during the year, and the number found to be suffering from tuberculosis. These figures related to the area of the Chest Clinic, which corresponds with the area of the four authorities, Maidstone Borough, Maidstone R.D., Hollingbourn R.D., and Malling R.D.

- (a) Number of contacts seen during 1962, of newly notified cases of tuberculosis 463
- (b) Number of contacts examined during 1962 of cases notified prior to 1962 573
- (c) Number of contacts in (a) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis .. 6
- (d) Number of contacts in (b) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis .. 3
- (e) Arising out of School Heaf Positive Contact .. 1

AGE GROUPS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 1 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 -15 years	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
16 -25 years	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 -35 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36 -45 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
46 -55 years	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
56 -65 years	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
66 and over	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	10	3	-	2	-	-	-	-

For the third year in succession no deaths from either pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis were recorded. The number of new cases has increased from 9 in 1961 to 15 in 1962.

As will be seen, the distribution of these cases covers a very wide age range, the majority falling in the age group 26 - 65 years. The national mortality rate for tuberculosis has continued to fall, and the disease, although still serious and important, does not now hold the same priority as it did a few years ago.

CANCER

The number of deaths from cancer in the Maidstone Rural District during the past ten years is given below :-

1953	..	..	..	..	43
1954	..	..	..	..	53
1955	..	..	..	..	65
1956	..	..	..	..	59
1957	..	..	..	..	55
1958	..	..	..	..	42
1959	..	..	..	..	47
1960	..	..	..	..	51
1961	..	..	..	..	52
1962	..	..	..	..	45

Deaths from cancer in 1962, distributed according to sites:

Site	Male	Female	Total
Cancer of stomach	4	1	5
Cancer of lung, bronchus	6	-	6
Cancer of breast	-	5	5
Cancer of uterus	-	1	1
Other sites	19	9	28
TOTALS	29	16	45

Deaths from cancer in 1962, distributed according to age groups:

Age Groups	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-
2 - 5	-	-
6 - 15	1	-
16 - 25	-	-
26 - 35	1	1
36 - 45	1	-
46 - 55	2	4
56 - 65	6	2
66 and over	18	9
TOTALS	29	16

INFANT MORTALITY, 1962

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 - 6 months	7 - 9 months	10 - 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Asphyxia	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Congenital abnormalities	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Congenital heart disease	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Haemorrhage and Haemorrhagic disease of the newborn	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4
Marasmus	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Pulmonary syndrome of the newborn	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	7	1	-	-	8	3	-	-	-	11

In four of the eleven cases shown in the above table, prematurity was a contributive factor in the death of the infant.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

It was not found necessary during 1962 to obtain Magistrates' Orders to admit to hospital any elderly persons who were infirm and unable to care for themselves properly.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH (INFECTIOUS DISEASES) REGULATIONS, 1953

It was not necessary during the year to issue any restrictive Notices under these Regulations in order to prevent the spread of infection through the handling of food.

TOTAL DEATHS, 1962

Cause	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	19	9
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	-
16. Diabetes	3	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	20
18. Coronary disease, angina	30	20
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	1
20. Other heart disease	15	15
21. Other circulatory disease	3	7
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	12	3
24. Bronchitis	4	3
25. Other disease of respiratory system	1	1
26. Ulcer or stomach and duodenum	2	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	31	31
33. Motor Vehicle accidents	2	2
34. All other accidents	2	2
35. Suicide	2	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
TOTALS	159	130

DEATHS PER MONTH IN EACH PARISH

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTALS
Barming	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	1	9
Bearsted	9	1	8	3	1	-	1	4	7	4	4	1	43
Boughton Monchelsea	3	-	1	2	1	-	1	1	1	1	2	2	15
East Farleigh	2	4	4	2	-	-	2	-	1	1	1	1	18
West Farleigh	1	1	3	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Hunton	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Linton	12	10	10	7	6	2	2	3	5	10	2	11	80
Loose	1	1	2	2	1	1	-	1	2	2	1	1	15
Marden	1	6	4	3	2	2	1	5	1	1	2	4	32
Nettlestead	1	-	2	-	-	1	-	2	2	-	-	-	8
Otham	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	3
Staplehurst	2	5	2	-	2	3	1	1	1	2	2	-	21
Teston	2	3	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	11
Yalding	3	-	2	3	2	3	2	-	1	3	2	4	25
TOTALS	39	32	42	24	15	15	11	17	22	30	16	26	289

The parish of Linton contains a hospital of 326 beds, including 69 beds for Part III accommodation under the Kent County Council.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Your Senior Public Health Inspector has furnished the following details of work in his department during 1962.

It will be apparent from the report that as in previous years the majority of the departmental work has been confined to dealing with routine matters and inspections appertaining to public health.

The statistics reveal once again that an ever increasing amount of time and work is being devoted to the supervision and inspection of Improvement Grant schemes carried out within the area.

Factory and shop premises have been visited regularly under the respective legislation and where it has been found necessary remedial works have been carried out to comply with the requirements of the Acts, thus maintaining the present standard of hygiene and facilities provided for employees' welfare.

Similar to last year, it was found that a great deal of time had to be devoted to visiting and inspecting established licenced caravan sites within the area, this increase being in the main due to the supervision of building works in progress and site modifications required to meet the Council's conditions attached to the licences granted under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

Water Supplies

During the year of 1962, no complaints were received concerning the water supply within the district and there is every indication that the supply has been satisfactory, both in quality and quantity. There still remains a small number of properties in the area not connected to a mains supply provided by either the Mid Kent Water Company or the Maidstone Waterworks Company. In each case, this is due to the isolated nature of the properties concerned.

Sampling of the water supply to the area is carried out by the Water Companies involved, usually at the source of supply. With the exception of the East Farleigh Pumping Station, all sources of supply are outside the district. Samples are taken of the raw water and water following treatment going into supply, the samples being submitted for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis. The results of these samples taken showed no evidence of contamination and typical results from chemical analyses are as follows :

East Farleigh Pumping Station

<u>Chemical Examination</u>	<u>Dates</u>		
	8.1.62.	27.7.62.	30.11.62.
Ammonia saline	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ammonia "Albuminoid"	Nil	Nil	Nil
"Oxygen) in 15 minutes absorbed")	0.03	0.09	0.02
at 27°C) in 4 hours	0.05	0.17	0.06
Nitrogen from nitrites	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen from nitrates	4.9	9.8	7.4
Chlorine	35.5	33.5	33.5
Total Solid Residue	688	446	576
Total Hardness (as calcium carbonate)	351	346	350.8
Alkalinity (as calcium carbonate)			
Lead	Nil	Nil	Nil
Iron in solution	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total iron	Nil	Nil	Nil
Zinc	Nil	Nil	Nil
Reaction (pH value)	7.5	7.70	7.9
Appearance	Bright and colourless		
Sediment	Nil	Nil	Nil

All samples : The water is of high organic purity.

Following a routine sample taken by the Mid Kent Water Company of the supply serving a childrens' home, the results indicated contamination by rodents. Immediate negotiations with the Institute involved resulted in the adequate cleansing and repair of the storage tank in question and follow-up water samples indicated a satisfactory supply.

During the year, routine water samples have also been taken by your Public Health Department, additional to those taken by the two Water Companies concerned. In one instance where a sample was taken from a spring supply, the results obtained were found to be unsatisfactory. As a result of negotiation with the owner of the premises concerned, a bacteriological filtering plant was installed and supplies have proved satisfactory.

Water Supplies (continued)

The results of the rest of the samples taken showed no evidence of contamination and a typical sample result is shown below :

Bacteriological Examination

<u>Source</u>	<u>Probable numbers per 100 ml.</u>	
	<u>Coliform bacilli</u>	<u>Bact.coli</u> (type 1)
Tap. Betts, Butchers Shop, Ashford Road, Bearsted - (Maidstone Water Company)	None	None
Tap. D.T.Butcher, Butchers Shop, Loose Road, Linton. (Mid Kent Water Company)	None	None

The following table gives indication of (a) the number of dwelling-houses, (b) the number of the population supplied from public water mains and (c) by means of standpipes -

Parish	Houses supplied (a)	Estimated Population (b)	Houses served by standpipes (estimated) (c)
Barming	217	680	-
Bearsted	1,151	3,097	-
Boughton Monchelsea	408	1,200	4
East Farleigh	663	1,920	-
West Farleigh	106	568	3
Hunton	214	620	-
Linton	417	1,314	4
Loose	683	1,686	5
Marden	865	2,660	-
Nettlestead	201	630	-
Otham	118	376	-
Staplehurst	823	2,212	8
Teston	211	550	-
Yalding	814	2,740	-

Scavenging

The refuse collection service is operated by the Engineer and Surveyor and at present results in the majority of the district having a fortnightly collection of refuse. The disposal of refuse is carried out by tipping and with the complete filling of one available tip during the year, disposal is now achieved at the one remaining refuse tip situated at the western extremity of the rural district area.

Litter baskets erected throughout the district by your Public Health Department personnel have proved effective in most cases. However, some difficulty has been encountered owing to vandalism and during the forthcoming year some litter baskets will require considerable repair and replacement in some instances.

Drainage and Sanitation

Progress continues to be made by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department in connection with the modification of existing sewage works within the parishes of Bearsted, Marden and Staplehurst. Completion of a sewerage system for the parish of Laddingford, commenced during the year is expected to be completed during the earlier part of next year (1963).

Rivers and Streams

Pollution still occurs in the various waterways within the area and as in previous years can be attributed to overflowing cesspools and the direct discharge of sewage from some parishes. Proposed sewerage schemes for the parishes concerned will, on completion, remove the main sources of pollution. Further improvement can be expected when the River Board inspectorate implements the requirements of forthcoming legislation with respect to water courses pollution.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

HOUSING

Number of houses inspected	231
Number of visits under Housing Acts	190
Number of drains tested	111
Number of drainage visits	252
Visits re Overcrowding	0
Number of visits made in respect of Improvement Grants and Building Byelaws	1,166
Number of visits made under the Rent Act	6

FOOD AND WATER

Number of Slaughterhouse and meat inspections	341
Number of visits re Water Supplies	14
Number of visits re Milk and Dairies	8
Number of visits re Food and Drugs Act	231

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Number of visits re Infectious Diseases	43
---	----

GENERAL - PUBLIC HEALTH

Number of visits under the Public Health Acts	458
Enterovirus Survey visits	95
Refuse disposal and litter bins	47
Accumulations	14
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960	443
Hop Pickers' Camps	122
Factories Act	85
Shops Act	246
Rodent Control	318
Miscellaneous	58
Diseases of Animals and Waste Food Order Visits	6
Verminous premises visited	1
Interviews with Builders, Architects, Owners etc.	307
National Assistance Act	0
Collection and delivery of samples to Public Health Laboratory	25
Clean Air Act	7
Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare) Provisions Act	25
Revisits to premises under notice	139

Total .. 4,989

Comparison of Summary figures with 1961

The overall number of visits and inspections carried out during the year have increased by 764 over those made in 1961.

On examination of the statistics, however, it is apparent that there has been a considerable reduction in the number of visits made under the Housing Acts, this is due, once again, to the fact that the majority of slum clearance properties within the area have already been dealt with. In addition to this, extensions to the existing slum clearance programme have been restricted to keep pace with the development of alternative Council accommodation for the families displaced.

It will also be apparent from the summary that a substantial number of visits carried out in relation to Improvement Grants have occurred, indicating in some measure the amount of supervision required with regard to works in progress, initial and final inspections of the properties concerned.

As in previous years, determined efforts have been made to maintain the routine visits to factories and shops, with a view to continuing the existing satisfactory standard prevalent throughout the district.

It will also be noted from the summary that with regard to caravan sites, there has been an increase over last year's figures of 300%. This unusually large increase has been due to three particular reasons. One being the regular visiting and inspection of established sites to note progress being made by the individual site owners under their Licence conditions. Secondly, the result of daily visits made to an unauthorised caravan site where the Council resolved to take legal action against the person responsible. Finally, additional visits were necessary in respect of an overall survey of the district to locate the individual siting of unauthorised caravans.

GENERAL STATISTICS

HOUSING

Informal Notices served	..	..	..	..	..	63
Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	..	..	10
Notices completed	..	..	..	..	..	65

HOUSING DEFECTS REMEDIED

Walls and ceilings	..	..	..	..	..	11
Rising and penetrating dampness remedied				..	..	13
Repairs to external walls	..	..	..	..	..	12
Repairs to defective windows and doors			..	..	..	9
Chimney stacks repaired	..	..	..	..	..	4
General repairs to roofs	..	..	..	..	..	10
Provision for food storage	..	..	..	..	..	28
Repairs to staircases	..	..	..	..	..	5
Repair or renewal of fireplaces	..	..		..	..	5
Cooking facilities provided and/or repaired				..	..	5
Repointing to brickwork	..	..	..	..	..	9
Repair or replacement of floors	..	..	..	..	..	17
Provision of permanent ventilation			..	..	..	4
Provision of adequate lighting	..	..	..	..	..	4
Enlargement of window areas	..	..	..	..	..	4
Provision of fuel storage	..	..	..	..	..	4
Provision of dustbin	..	..	..	..	..	0
Decoration	..	..	..	..	..	1

DRAINAGE

Provision of cesspools	..	..	..	..	..	4
Repairs to eaves guttering	..	..	..	..	..	4
Sinks provided and/or repaired	..	..	..	..	..	10
Repairs to closets	..	..	..	..	..	2
Provision of inspection covers	..	..	..	..	..	0
Provision of flush closets	..	..	..	..	..	17
Repairs to drains	4
Provision of new drainage	20

NUISANCES

Nuisance from dogs	1
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INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Visits made by Inspectors	43
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Reports made to M.O.H. on cases of infectious diseases :

Scarlet Fever	9
---------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	---

Poliomyelitis	0
---------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	---

Food Poisoning	0
----------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	---

Smallpox Contact	1
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Enterovirus Survey

Visits made by Inspectors	95
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This survey which was commenced last year continued throughout the current year until the month of June. The samples obtained from children within the age groups of 0 - 5 were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service in connection with research on this subject. It will be noted that 95 individual visits were made and in addition to this a proportionate number of visits to the Public Health Laboratory at Preston Hall were required.

FACTORIES AND WORK PLACES

Factories with mechanical power	..	..	..	..	68
Factories without mechanical power	..	..	..		4
Inspections of Factories with mechanical power				..	65
Inspections of Factories without mechanical power				..	8
Inspections of Builders' sites for Sanitary Accommodation					4
Inspections of closed Factory premises or premises with no employees			..	..	1
Factories with mechanical power - Informal Notices served					6
Factories with mechanical power - Informal Notices completed					6
Factories without mechanical power - Informal Notices served					1
Factories without mechanical power - Informal Notices completed					1
Statutory Notices served	..	..	..	..	0

As in previous years, factory premises within the area have been visited wherever possible at least once during the year. It will be apparent from the above statistics that in only a few cases was it found necessary to serve informal notices relating to defects and that in each case compliance has been achieved without implementing enforcement action.

Visits have been made where necessary to outworkers premises and no adverse conditions have been discovered.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1962
FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MAIDSTONE
IN THE COUNTY OF KENT

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration
of the Factories Act, 1961

PART 1 OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	8	1	-
ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	68	66	6	-
iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	4	4	-	-
Total	76	78	7	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Lack of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	5	4	-	2	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	2	1	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	8	6	-	3	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing) Making apparel) etc.,) Cleaning) and) Washing	1	-	-	-	-	-
Household linen	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, lace curtains and nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	1	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture and upholstery	1	-	-	-	-	-
Electro-plate						
File making						
Brass and brass articles						
Fur pulling						
Iron and steel cables and chains						
Iron and Steel anchors and grapnels						
Cart gear						
Locks, latches and keys						
Umbrellas, etc.						
Artificial flowers						
Nets, other than wire nets						
Tents						
Sacks						
Racquet and tennis balls						



PART VIII OF THE ACT (Continued)

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Paper bags						
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper						
Brush making						
Pea picking						
Feather sorting						
Carding, etc., of buttons etc.						
Stuffed toys						
Basket making						
Chocolates and sweetmeats						
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.						
Textile weaving						
Lampshades						
TOTAL	3	-	-	-	-	-

HOUSING

The following information regarding housing in the Rural District is set out in the form asked for by the Ministry of Health.

I	1(a) Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year. Total number of houses inspected for housing defects, (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	190
	(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	1,397
	2(a) Number of dwelling-houses, (included under sub-section 1 above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	0
	(b) Number of inspections made for that purpose	0
	3(a) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	1
	4(a) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respect fit for human habitation	65
II	Remedy of Defects during the year, without the service of formal notice.	
	1(a) Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority	63
III	Action under Statutory Powers during the year.	
	A. Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1957	
	1. Number of dwelling-houses in which notices were served requiring repairs ..	0
	2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after the service of formal notices - a. By Owners	0
	b. By Local Authority in default of owners ..	0
	B. Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.	
	1. Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	0
	2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices - a. By Owners	0
	b. By Local Authority in default of owners ..	0

C.	Proceedings under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957.	
1.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	2
2.	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	16
D.	Proceedings under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	
1.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	3
2.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	2
IV	Housing Act, 1957, Part 4 Overcrowding	
A(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	13
(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	15
(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	89
B(1)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	4
C(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	5
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	30
D	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	0

SUMMARY OF ACTION ON 1962/63 SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME

Parish	Houses Requiring Action	Action taken		Repaired	Families re-housed
		Demolition Orders	Closing Orders		
Barming	0	0	0	0	0
Bearsted	0	0	0	0	0
Boughton Monchelsea	3	2	1	0	0
East Farleigh	0	0	0	0	0
West Farleigh	0	0	0	0	0
Hunton	0	0	0	1	0
Linton	0	0	0	0	0
Loose	0	0	0	0	1
Marden	0	0	0	0	1
Nettlestead	0	0	0	0	1
Otham	2	0	2	0	0
Staplehurst	0	0	0	1	0
Teston	0	0	0	0	0
Yalding	0	0	0	0	0
TOTALS	5	2	3	2	3

During the year 1962, following the Council's instructions no extensive slum clearance programme was undertaken. The five premises requiring action were dealt with as individual cases in view of the particular circumstances. As indicated, three families have been re-housed, the families concerned being included on the previous years' slum clearance programmes.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

DISCRETIONARY

Number of applications approved in 1962	12
Number of applications not approved	0
Number of houses involved in approved applications ..	19
Amount of Grants paid during 1962	£4,205
Number of Grants completed during 1962	14

STANDARD

Number of applications approved in 1962	34
Number of applications not approved	0
Number of houses involved in approved applications ..	37
Amount of Grants paid during 1962	£4,560
Number of Grants completed during 1962	34

The year under review indicates continued public interest regarding the improvement of their properties and every effort has been made to encourage owners wherever possible to take advantage of one or other of the types of Grant available.

As forecast in last year's report, there has been a reduction in the number of Discretionary Improvement Grant applications and a slight increase in Standard Grant applications. Some reduction in the number of applications for Discretionary Grants can be attributed to the national economic restrictions implemented. During this period, the Council continued to make Discretionary Improvement Grants but reduced the maximum payable to £300 as opposed to £400.

It will be noted from remarks made earlier in this report, namely in the Comparison of Summary figures, that the amount of time devoted overall to improvement grants has increased considerably, this being due to the requisite time which must be spent in interviewing the public, architects, builders and the inspection of works in progress prior to payment of Grant and completion of the necessary works.

It is perhaps interesting to note that with the continued improvement of properties within the Council's area the standard of housing accommodation is obviously improving and to some degree implements the Minister's desire to improve as many as possible of the existing stock of useful units of housing accommodation.

General Statistics regarding Improvement Grants made by this Council

Total amount approved by the Council up to the 31st December, 1962 - Discretionary Grants	£56,432
Standard Grants (max)	£16,195
Total	<u>£72,627</u>

CAMPING SITES AND CARAVANS

<u>Site</u>	<u>Proprietor or Owner</u>	<u>Maximum No. of Caravans</u>
Enterprise Caravan Site, East Farleigh.	Mr. E.L.Paine	25
Hartridge Farm Caravan Site, East Farleigh.	Mr. K.A. and Mrs.M.R.G.Chambers	46 - 110
The Retreat, Nettlestead.	Mr. P.Lamb.	60

Caravan Sites for Seasonal Use Only

Enterprise Caravan Site, East Farleigh.	Mr. E.L.Paine	15
Medway Wharf Site, Nettlestead.	Mr.W.Nunn, Medway Wharf Ltd.	10
Twyford Boat Yard Site, Yalding.	Mr.D.S.Chuter, 102 Blithdale Road, Abbey Wood, S.E.2.	18
Hampstead Cottage Farm Site, Yalding.	Mr. F.O'Reilly.	10

Summary of data

Number of inspections	443
Number of licenced sites	6
Number of licenced caravans	2
Applications for licences	2
Applications for licences refused	0

During the year, several visits have been made to the registered caravan sites in order to inspect works in progress where owners are providing additional amenities as required under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

It will be noted that the number of visits in relation to caravans as a whole has increased by some 300% over the previous year's figure. This has been due in part to a survey of the entire area in order that the Council could be informed regarding the number of unauthorised caravans in the main occupied by itinerant travellers throughout the district. It was also necessary to carry out daily visits to one unauthorised caravan site for some two to three months prior to taking legal action to secure their removal.

HOP PICKERS' CAMPS

Total number of Hop Pickers' Camps in use	..	..	55
Number of huts in use (estimated)	..	..	1.250 + 55 caravans
Estimated number of pickers	..	..	2,800
Number of Inspections	..	..	122

Once again, the hop picking season was a relatively short one due to the almost universal use of hop picking machines. Inspections involved visiting some 50 farms and approximately 55 individual camps.

As in recent years, it was found that only part of the camps have been used to provide accommodation for hop pickers and it was estimated that some 2,800 pickers were employed. The trend for some farmers to employ "gipsy" and "traveller" type families has apparently increased slightly, as during the course of inspections it was estimated that approximately 55 of these families provided their own accommodation in the form of caravans.

Similar to previous years, each camp was visited at least once during the season and, wherever possible, at the close of the season, to ensure that occupation of the camps was not allowed after the 30th November.

During the season, only one complaint was received concerning sanitary arrangements and the full co-operation of the owner concerned in this instance resulted in the abatement of the conditions found without recourse to statutory action.

There were no reported cases of infectious diseases during the season and no complaints were received concerning scavenging and water supplies.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES.

Number of Food Premises in the District

Cafes and Restaurants	13
Food Shops (excluding butchers)	85
Dairies	5
Butchers' Shops	16
Licenced Premises	<u>58</u>
Total	<u>177</u>

Number of Visits and Inspections

Cafes and Restaurants	39
Food Shops (excluding butchers)	140
Dairies	8
Butchers' Shops	54
Licenced Premises	<u>1</u>
Total	<u>242</u>

Routine inspections have been made throughout the area to food premises. The total number of inspections compares favourably with last year's figures.

As in recent years, the trend for more premises to improve conditions has continued and the general standard of hygiene and cleanliness throughout the food shops in the district has been maintained.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF SHOPS

Number of Shops (including Public Houses) 213

Number of Inspections of Shops (including Public Houses) 267

During the year 1962, 267 inspections were made of shops within the district.

In no instance was it found necessary to take statutory proceedings against the occupants of any shops for contraventions of the Shops Act and no representations were received from any organisation.

Each of the 155 shops within the district have, therefore, been inspected at least once during the course of the year.

MILK SUPPLIES

Number of registered distributors ..	..	..	..	35
Number of registered dairies ..	..	..	..	5

It will be recalled from last year's Report that sampling of milk supplies at retailers' premises is now the responsibility of the Kent County Council. Experience has proved that as a general rule there is no necessity for additional samples to be taken by your Inspectors, this being desirable to prevent duplication of sampling at the premises in question.

It will be noted from the figures submitted by the Kent County Council Health Department that some 26 samples have been obtained by them from retailers within the Maidstone Rural District, all of which were satisfactory.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Number of licenced slaughterhouses	..	..	..	2
Number of premises cleansed during the year	..	..	..	2

MEAT INSPECTION

<u>Slaughterhouse</u>			<u>No. of carcasses slaughtered</u>	<u>Per Cent</u>
West End, Marden	..	..	860	62%
High Street, Staplehurst	..	..	523	38%
Total	..	..	1,383	100%

Total carcasses examined

	Pigs	Sheep	Calves	Cows	Other Bovine	Total
No. examined	387	789	14	0	193	1,383
No. passed	346	754	14	0	171	1,285
Completely condemned	2	0	0	0	0	2
Partially condemned	39	35	0	0	22	96

Tuberculosis

	Pigs	Sheep	Calves	Cows	Other Bovine	Total
No. examined	387	789	14	0	193	1,383
Completely condemned	0	0	0	0	0	0
Partially condemned	12	0	0	0	0	12

Other Diseases

	Pigs	Sheep	Calves	Cows	Other Bovine	Total
No. examined	387	789	14	0	193	1,383
Completely condemned	2	0	0	0	0	2
Partially condemned	27	35	0	0	22	84

SLAUGHTERHOUSES IN DETAIL

	Pigs	Sheep	Calves	Cows	Other Bovine
High Street, Staplehurst -					
No. examined	229	199	2	0	93
Completely condemned	2	0	0	0	0
Partially condemned	16	4	0	0	5
West End, Marden, -					
No. examined	158	590	12	0	100
Completely condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Partially condemned	23	21	0	0	15

MEAT INSPECTION

There has been a reduction of approximately 170 carcasses examined during this year. This has been due to the fact that there are now only two licenced slaughterhouses within the area as opposed to four during the previous year. Co-operation with the operators has ensured that 100% meat inspection of all meat slaughtered within the Rural District has been maintained.

The amount of meat and offal condemned shows a reduction on the previous year's figures, this being due in some respect to the reduced number of animals slaughtered and the continuing trend of improvements made in animal husbandry.

Diseases of Animals (Waste Foods) Order, 1957

There has been no increase in the number of registered plants within the area during the year. No complaints concerning the operation of these plants have been received and routine visits to ensure that operators meet their obligations under the above Order have been carried out wherever possible.

MEAT INSPECTION

Reason for Condemnation

<u>Reason</u>	<u>Completely condemned</u>	<u>Partially condemned</u>
Tuberculosis	0	12
Abscesses	0	3
Pleurisy	0	3
Ascaris Lumbricoides	0	0
Nephritis	0	1
Pneumonia	0	5
Pericarditis	0	6
Parasitic infection	0	15
Actino-bacillosis	0	2
Cirrhosis	0	9
Pyæmia	0	0
Cysticercus Bovis	0	3
Blood Splashing	0	1
Peritonitis	0	7
Congestion	0	1
Mastitis	0	0
Bruising	0	2
Arthritis & Emaciation	1	0
Liver Fluke	0	3
Oedema	1	0
Cysticercus Ovis	0	4
Milk Spot	0	5
Torsion	0	2
Carcinoma	0	1

The incidence of Tuberculosis in carcasses compares favourably with last year's figures and was found in each case to be in pig carcasses. In no instances were the infections generalised, all infections being confined to the head and were determined as being of the avian variety. Parasitic infection of the lungs and liver has decreased and general observations of the carcasses as a whole revealed the quality of the meat to be of a high standard.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Details of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers
within the MAIDSTONE RURAL DISTRICT during the year
ended 31st December, 1962

<u>Article</u>	<u>No.</u>
Antacid Powder	1
Bitter Lemon Drink	1
Blackcurrant Puree	1
Bournvita	1
Broad Beans, tinned	2
Caster Sugar	1
Castor Oil, B.P.	1
Cider	3
Coffee	1
D.D.D. Balm	1
Ephedrine Hydrochloride	1
Essence of Beef	1
Evaporated Milk, tinned	1
Fresh Thick Jersey Cream	1
Fruit Pie, Strawberry	1
Fruit Salad in heavy syrup	1
Gin	3
Glauber's Salts, B.P.	1
Golden Raising Powder	1
Granulated Sugar	1
Honey	1
Ice Cream	2
Instant Coffee 100% Pure	1
Junior Balsam	1
Kur-a-Koff	1
Loganberries	1
Marmalade	1
Meat Pies	2
Milk	26
Mixed Fruit	1
Mixed Vegetables	1
Orange Drink	1
Pineapple Milk Shake Syrup	1
Processed Peas, tinned	1
Pure Sterilised Cream	1
Rice	1
Sago	1
Semolina	1
Soluble Saccharin	2
Stoned Raisins	1
Superbread	1
Tea	3
Water (after softening)	1
Whisky	1
Total	79

Summary

Milks	26
Drugs	6
Spirits	4
Other Samples	43
	<u>79</u>

All of the above samples were genuine.

ICE CREAM

<u>Number of Samples</u>	<u>Methylene Blue Test Group</u>	<u>Pathogenic organisms cultivated</u>
24	I	0
6	II	0
0	III	0
0	IV	0

Sampling of ice cream sold within your area has been carried out during the year. These samples have been obtained from retailers' premises.

Similar to previous years, attempts were made to secure at least one sample from each of the registered premises within the Maidstone Rural District. It will be seen from the above statistics that the results of the samples obtained all fell within the test groups 1 and 2, both of these group results indicate a satisfactory product.

RODENT CONTROL

Summary of Inspections and Surveys made under Rodent Control.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricul- tural	All Other (incl. Business Premises)	Total
Total number of pro- perties in Local Authority's area	9	5,546	1,143	730	7,428
Number of properties inspected as a result of Notification	0	347	10	12	369
Number of properties inspected as a result of Survey or other- wise	9	0	34	325	368
Total number of inspections and re-inspections carried out	67	1,680	611	575	2,933
Number of properties inspected found to be infested by:-	Rats 9 Mice 0	336 11	42 2	24 3	411 16
Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority (completed)	9	347	44	27	427
Total treatments carried out, incl- uding re-treatments (completed)	13	274	13	56	356
Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	52				

Comparison with last year's figures indicates that within close limits the same number of treatments have been carried out. Routine treatments of the refuse tip and Council premises such as sewage works have been maintained and there is no indication that any severe infestation has occurred at any of these premises.

As in previous years, the Contract system continued to operate satisfactorily and in several instances satisfaction has been expressed by those persons receiving this Service. This has been mainly due to the manner in which your Rodent Operator continues to carry out his duties to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Birth-rates, Death-rates and Analysis of Mortality in the year.

Area	Rate per 1,000 population	Annual Death-rate per 1,000 population					Rate per 1,000	
		Live Births	All Causes	Tuberculosis	Cancer of Lung	Other (Cancer)	Total deaths under 1 year	Still Births
England and Wales	18.0 (P)		11.9	.06	.50	1.11	21.4	18.1 (P)
Hollingbourn R.D.	17.59		11.33	.05	.40	1.61	6.55	19.29
Maidstone R.D.	17.59		9.54	-	.28	1.86	30.21	8.17
Malling R.D.	20.83		10.97	.14	.28	1.17	19.25	17.79
Maidstone Borough	17.61		10.57	.03	.62	1.40	20.61	19.30
County of Kent	17.04		12.24	.06	.57	1.70	18.55	16.54

(P) - Provisional Rates

GENERAL SUMMARY

Estimated resident population, 1962	..	..	..	20,890
Area (in acres)	..	..	..	34,487
Density (persons per acre)	..	..	..	.605
Annual Birth rate per 1,000 population -				
crude	..	..	17.42	
corrected		..	17.59	
Annual Death rate per 1,000 population -				
crude	..	..	13.83	
corrected		..	9.54	
		Male	Female	Total
Births	..	..	..	..
		199	165	364
Deaths	..	..	..	..
		159	130	289
Excess of births over deaths	..	..	40	35
				75
Tuberculosis death rate -				
Pulmonary	Nil
Non-pulmonary	Nil
Cancer death rate per 1,000 population	2.15

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